

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 INR-07 L-03

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R 021300Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8649

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 0002

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, XL, TD, US: ECLA

SUBJECT: CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE ON CARIBBEAN LAW OF THE SEA

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 2785 NOV 75

1. MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS PERMANENT SECRETARY
SEIGNORET INFORMED ME DEC 31 THAT CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE
ON LOS TO BE CONVENED UNDER AUSPICES OF ECLA COMMITTEE
NOR DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION IN THE CARIBBEAN (CDCC)
DEFINITELY WILL NOT BE HELD IN JANUARY IN PORT OF SPAIN
AS EARLIER PROJECTED.

2. SEIGNORET STATED THAT THE DIFFERENCES WHICH HAD ARISEN
OVER PARTICIPATION (SEE REFTTEL) HAD EFFECTIVELY STYMIED
PROGRESS AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO DID NOT WISH TO PROCEED
UNLESS THESE DIFFERENCES COULD FIRST BE RESOLVED. SINCE
INTERNATIONAL LOS CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK WILL CONVENE IN
MARCH, CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE WILL NOW NOT BE HELD BEFORE
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SECOND QUARTER OF 1976 AT EARLIEST, SEIGNORET SAID.

3. COMMENT: CUBAN DISTORTION OF ORIGINAL SCENARIO AND ATTEMPT TO EXCLUDE FROM ATTENDANCE METROPOLE COUNTRIES LIKE USG WITH RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE CARIBBEAN MAY HAVE DAMPENED ENTIRE EFFORT TO OBTAIN CARIBBEAN CONSENSUS. I OBTAINED IMPRESSION THAT IT IS NOW NEBULOUS WHETHER CONFERENCE WILL EVER BE HELD, SINCE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN MOST USEFUL PRIOR TO NEW YORK LOS SESSION. HOWEVER, T&T PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS STILL HAS CONSIDERABLE JUSTIFICATION FOR TRYING TO BRING TOGETHER CARIBBEAN STATES TO SHARE SEA RESOURCES MORE EQUITABLY THAN WILL OTHERWISE BE THE CASE IN THIS SEVERELY ZONE-LOCKED AREA.
RICH

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